

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 INR-07 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /017 W

----- 026834

R 051445Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6564

NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE

INFO AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, PFOR, BC

SUBJECT: NWC VISIT TO BOTSWANA - MAY 1-4

1. NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE VISIT TO BOTSWANA WAS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL AND MADE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION IN DEMONSTRATING U.S. INTEREST IN BOTSWANA AND ITS ROLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

2. THE PROGRAM INCLUDED A RECEPTION AND A DINNER HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR, WITH ACTING PRESIDENT MASIRE AS PRINCIPAL GUEST AT BOTH EVENTS; CALL BY AMBASSADOR JONES ON ACTING PRESIDENT; BRIEFING BY AMBASSADOR, EMBASSY OFFICERS, CONGEN JOHANNES, AND POLITICAL/ECONOMIC OFFICER FROM LUSAKA. GOB OFFICIALS GAVE FRANK, CANDID AND LUCID BRIEFINGS ON BOTSWANA'S FOREIGN POLICY, ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND THE COUNTRY'S MINERALS POTENTIAL. GROUP ALSO VISITED SELEBI-PIKWE COPPER-NICKEL COMPLEX AND WERE GUESTS AT A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY BAMANGWATO CONCESSIONS LIMITED, WHICH IS PARTLY OWNED BY AMERICAN METALS CLIMAX. THE STUDY GROUP ALSO MET WITH FAMOUS SOUTH AFRICAN HEART SURGEON CHRIS BARNARD, WHO WAS IN GABORONE TO OPEN ANNUAL RED CROSS FETE.

3. MEMBERS OF THE STUDY GROUP APPEARED IMPRESSED BY THE OPENNESS AND FRIENDLINESS OF THE BOTSWANA AND STRUCK WITH SOME SURPRISE BY THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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AND THE SIZE OF THE MINERAL RESOURCES BASE. WE HOPE NWC

WILL INCLUDE BOTSWANA IN ITS AFRICAN STUDY TOUR NEXT YEAR.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY SCHOOLS, MILITARY VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GABORO00610
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750157-0174
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750578/aaaactrj.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NWC VISIT TO BOTSWANA - MAY 1-4
TAGS: MILI, PFOR, MPOL, BC, NWC
To: STATE NWC
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006